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REMARKS

In response to the Official Communication dated February 3, 2004, Applicants respectfully file the amendments delivered herewith and the remarks following below in support of the patentability of the remaining claims. Claims 1 - 15 were originally presented with the present application, claims 1 - 15 are canceled herewith and new claims 16 - 30 are added herewith. Claims 16 - 30 remain in the application.

The Official Action states that claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schilekelmann et al. (EPA #864,933) in view of Nakagiri et al. (EPA #1,098,266). This rejection is now mooted by the cancelation of these claims.

Claims 1 - 15 as submitted were directed to methods, apparatus and program products for displaying pages of a print job and creating print instructions for printing the job. While such methods, apparatus and programs are covered by the present specification, the present application is more accurately directed to job ticketing and the advantageous use of the visual display and artificial pages in creating the job tickets. The newly submitted claims are directed to methods, apparatus and programs for job ticketing related to print jobs.

Job ticketing is fundamentally distinct from processing print jobs for several reasons. A job ticket is logically separate from the source document (print job) and the destination device. For this reason, the same job ticket can drive several output devices or several source documents (for example, many documents which each have the same front cover and back cover). Also, several job tickets can be used with the same source document. Job tickets can be created on a workstation separate from the intended destination device so that several users can be creating job tickets while the intended printers are busy outputting print jobs. The concept of job tickets and job ticketing systems has become well known to those skilled in the relevant arts over the past few years. There is voluminous support in the present specification for the application of the present

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invention to a job ticketing system - starting,, in fact, with the title - such that these claims do not represent new matter.

The prior art cited by the Official Action does not relate to or disclose job ticketing or job ticketing systems. Schilekelmann and Nakagiri each cover reproduction devices. Operators of the systems described in these cited references would have to use the described interface to create covers or insert sheets for each individual print job. They would also be required to use a different device interface each time they used a different reproduction device. Finally, only one user could use each device at a time.

Claims 16 - 30 as submitted each requires the creation and storage of a job ticket for use in printing a print job. The job tickets are created using the visual display and artificial pages as described in the specification to advantageously avoid ticketing errors. Applicants feel that claims 16 - 30 as submitted are patentably distinct over the prior art of record.

Therefore, Applicants feel that the claims remaining in the present application stand in condition for allowance and respectfully request early notification of the same. In the event the Examiner feels that questions of patentability remain, the favor of a telephone call would be appreciated to the Applicants attorney at the phone number given below in an effort to resolve the issues.

Respectfully Submitted,



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